

AGENDA: May 25, 2004

4.2

CATEGORY: Consent

DEPT.: Community Development

TITLE: Amendment to Bylaws for the Downtown Committee

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt A RESOLUTION AMENDING ARTICLE IV, ARTICLE V AND ARTICLE VIII OF THE BYLAWS FOR THE DOWNTOWN COMMITTEE REGARDING MEMBERSHIP, to be read in title only, further reading waived.

FISCAL IMPACT – None.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

Article IV – Membership

In June 2000, the City Council amended the Downtown Committee bylaws, reducing the number of members from 15 to 14 and substituting a business community representative for the cultural arts representative.

At its November 2003 meeting, the Appointments Review Committee expressed concerns with recruitment of members for the Downtown Committee. They had found it difficult finding enough downtown property and business owners to fill the five required positions, whereas there was much citizen interest in the one community-at-large position. The Council's Appointments Review Committee recommended that the Council "direct the Downtown Committee to find a solution regarding restructuring the current membership of the Downtown Committee, vacancies and incumbents terming out" (Attachment 2). The Council approved this recommendation at its November 18, 2003 meeting.

Following this direction, on May 4, 2004, the Downtown Committee discussed changing the bylaws regarding membership (see Attachment 3). The Committee recommended that there be a modification to the bylaws that:

- Reduce the total number of members from 14 to 12.
- The current bylaws composition requires there be eight members, five members who own a business in the downtown and three members who own property in the

downtown. The Committee recommended that the number of members in this category be reduced to a total of five members who own property or a business in the downtown.

- It was recommended that the school representatives (Article IV.e) be eliminated and replaced with an at-large member. The existing bylaws requires that the school district membership rotate between the Mountain View-Whisman Elementary School District and the Mountain View/Los Altos Union High School District, and the school district representative must live in Mountain View. This position has typically been difficult to fill and rotating the position annually provided little continuity on downtown issues.
- Add two community-at-large members (representing different geographic areas of the City).

Article VIII, Section 2.G – Quorum

This section clarifies that a quorum for the Committee is eight and, for purposes of a quorum, the nonvoting City Councilmember may be included. With the above reduction of members from 14 to 12, the quorum would also be reduced from 8 to 7 and, for purposes of a quorum, the nonvoting City Councilmember may be included.

Article VIII – Subcommittees

If the above-recommended changes are approved, the subcommittee membership must be modified to reflect these changes.

Parking Subcommittee

The Parking Subcommittee membership currently has a total of seven members. Four members are required to be downtown property owners or business owners, and the remaining three are other members from the Downtown Committee. The Downtown Committee recommended that membership be modified and that the Parking Subcommittee total membership be reduced to six and that three of the members be required to be downtown property owners or businesses in the district.

Economic Development Subcommittee

The Economic Development Subcommittee is made up of seven members of the Downtown Committee, and this membership would be reduced to six.

Article V, Section 1 – Meetings

Many of the tasks outlined in the original work plan adopted in 1999 will be completed by the end of May with the approval of the Downtown Precise Plan, Phase II. In light of this, the focus of the Committee will be downtown retail recruitment and ongoing operations and issues as they arise. Therefore, and in line with other City committees and commissions, the Committee agreed to meet only on an as-needed basis. Bylaws state that the Committee shall hold at least one meeting each year. The only change is reducing the Committee quorum from 8 to 7.

CONCLUSION

Changing the proportion of downtown business and property owners in favor of more community-at-large members reflects the increased interest of the entire City in the downtown. This restructuring will answer the concerns of the Appointments Review Committee regarding filling the positions on the Committee and the ability to fill some of the vacant positions with Mountain View residents interested in the downtown but do not own property or a business in the downtown.

PUBLIC NOTICING – Agenda posting.

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BMcB/5/CAM
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- Attachments:
1. Resolution Amending Articles IV and VIII of the Downtown Committee Bylaws
 2. City Council Minutes, November 18, 2003

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3. Downtown Committee Minutes, May 5, 2004

CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW
RESOLUTION NO.
SERIES 2004

A RESOLUTION AMENDING ARTICLE IV, ARTICLE V AND ARTICLE VIII OF THE
BYLAWS FOR THE DOWNTOWN COMMITTEE REGARDING MEMBERSHIP

WHEREAS, through a partnership of public and private investments, downtown Mountain View has become a vibrant, engaging environment and the hub for social, cultural and commercial activities in Mountain View; and

WHEREAS, the downtown is a vital community resource for those who live and work in Mountain View; and

WHEREAS, the Downtown Committee plays a critical role in advising the City Council on downtown issues and supporting a rejuvenation of downtown; and

WHEREAS, on May 26, 1998, the City Council adopted the Downtown Committee Bylaws and amended said Bylaws on June 27, 2000 by Resolution No. 16497;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Mountain View as follows:

The City Council hereby further amends the Downtown Committee Bylaws and adopts the amended Bylaws as the Mountain View Downtown Committee has set forth in Exhibit A, attached hereto and made part hereof.

BMcB/6/RESO
834-05-25-04R^